12TH AFRECON

12TH REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA AND ARAB COUNTRIES AND RELATED MEETINGS

AGENDA

GABORONE SUN CONFERENCE CENTRE, BOTSWANA
22-25 SEPTEMBER 2015

www.world-psi.org
TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2015

09:00-12:30 AFREC

WOMEN’S SEMINAR

14:00-14:30 Opening Session
   Welcome by Ritta Thandeka Msibi, PSI Vice-President, DENOSA, South Africa
   Welcome by Naomi Dedei Otoo, Chair of PSI Africa Women’s Committee, Public Utility Workers’ Union of TUC, Ghana
   Welcome by Alice Motshegwe, Vice-President of Botswana Land Board & Local Authorities & Health Workers Union, on behalf PSI Botswana affiliates
   Adoption of agenda
   Moderated by Veronica Montúfar, PSI Equality Officer

14:30-15:45 Precarious Work
   Presentation of the PSI Report on Precarious Work, by Moradeke Abiodun-Badru, Nigerian National Union of Midwives and Nurses, Nigeria
   Women in precarious employment in the MENA region, by Nassira Ghozlane, PSI EB member, Syndicat National Autonome des Personnels de l’Administration Publique, Algeria
   Young workers demand decent work, by Fatou Diouf, PSI EB Young Workers representative, Syndicat Autonome des Travailleurs de la Sénégalaise des Eaux, Senegal
   Discussion moderated by Sandra Vermuyten, PSI Head of Campaigns

16:00-17:15 Ending violence against women
   Ending the worst forms of violence against women, by Naomi Dedei Otoo, Chair of PSI Africa Women’s Committee, Public Utility Workers’ Union of TUC, Ghana
   Addressing workplace violence against women – a trade union strategy, by Milimo Kapombe, University of Zambia and Allied Workers Union, Zambia
   Discussion moderated by Charlotte Kalanbani, PSI Sub-regional Secretary for French Speaking Africa

17:15-17:45 Gender equality and global policies – From Global to Local
   Gender Equality, the Post 2015 Development Agenda and Financing for Development – the role of Trade unions in Africa, by Everline Aketch, PSI WOC Substitute member East and West Africa, National Union of Educational Institutions, Uganda

17:45-18:00 Closing remarks and adoption of the Conclusions of the Women’s Seminar

18:00-19:00 Registration of participants

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2015

YOUNG WORKERS’ SEMINAR

Chairpersons: Boemo Batho and Kebonyemodisa Watota

09:00-9:20 Opening Session
   Welcome and introductions
   Adoption of agenda

9:20-10:40 Strengthening the role of young workers in trade unions
   The case of Ghana, presented by Bernard Adjei and Gladys Alantiya
   The case of Nigeria, presented by Simon Idoko Obongo
   The case of South Africa, presented by Sibusiso Given Valashiya
   The case of Tunisia, presented by Nawfel Rhayem (TBC)

10:40-11:10 Coffee Break
11:10-12:30 Defining priorities for young workers in Africa and the Arab countries
Informal work
Labour casualization
The Role of Young Workers in PSI Structures

13:30-14:30 Registration of participants

START OF AFRECON

14:30-15:00 Introduction and adoption of the Conference agenda
Confirmation of the Co-chairs of the Conference
Confirmation of the Standing Orders Committee members
Confirmation of the Credentials Committee members
Confirmation of Resolution Committee members
Confirmation of the Tellers

15:00-16:30 Presentation on Trade Union Violations in the Africa and Arab Region
Introduction by Sandra Vermuyten, PSI Equality and Rights Officer
Session chaired by Nassira Ghozlane, PSI Titular, Arab Countries
There will be four discussants one from each sub-region to make comments on the study
Discussion

17:00-18:30 Presentation on Fair Taxation for Quality Public Services
By Baba Aye, Deputy General Secretary, Medical and Health Union of Nigeria
Introduction by Daniel Bertossa, PSI Director of Policy and Governance
Session chaired by Sikalame Seitiso, Co-Chairperson from Botswana
Participation of Bernard Adjei, Deputy General Secretary of Public Services Workers Union of TUC (Ghana)
Discussion

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

8:00-9:00 Registration for guests and government officials

9:00-10:00 OPENING CEREMONY
National anthem of Botswana
Workers solidarity song: “Solidarity Forever” to be led by Baba Aye
Welcome speech by Sikalame Seitiso, Chairperson of Botswana NCC
Speech by Peters Adeyemi, PSI Vice-President of the Region
Address by Rosa Pavanelli, PSI General Secretary
Opening of the Conference by the Honourable Edwin Batshu, Minister of Labour and Home Affairs of Botswana
Vote of Thanks by Alice Motshegwe, Vice-President of BLLAHWU

10:00-11:30 Presentation on the Theme of the Conference: “Consolidate the working class trade union solidarity, democracy, freedom, social justice and quality public services delivery”
By Dr. Kalusopa Trywell, Botswana
Session chaired by Neo Dudu Joel from National Amalgamated Local & Central Government, Parastatal Workers’ Union
Discussion

11:30-12:30 Group Photo with PSI representatives, invited guests and government officials from Botswana

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-14:15 Report from the Standing Orders Committee and adoption of report
Report from the Credentials Committee and adoption of report

14:15-16:30 Presentation on the Role of ITUC-Africa in Advancing the Course of Public Sector Trade Unions in Africa
By Kwasi Adu-Amankwah, ITUC-Africa General Secretary
Session chaired by Jean-Marie Ndi, PSI Titular, French-Speaking Africa
Discussion

16:30-17:00 Coffee break
17:00-18:00  Presentation on **Enhancing PSI Agenda: Contribution of Union Development and International Cooperation**

By Jasper Goss, PSI Project Officer.

Session chaired by Mgaya Adelgunda, PSI Titular, English-Speaking Africa

Discussion

**DINNER FOR ALL DELEGATES** (Hosted by Botswana Affiliates)

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**FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2015**

9:00-9:30  **Announcements and Solidarity Messages**

9:30-11:00  **Panel Discussions on Ebola: A Strategy that call for Investment in Public Health Systems**

Panel members include Ayuba Wabba, President of WAHSUN, Marie Mbayabu from DRC, and Dr L. Toni Lewis, Chair of SEIU Healthcare (USA) and Dr Jasper Goss Projects Coordinator, PSI

Session chaired by Ritta Thandeka, PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries

Questions

11:00-11:30  **Coffee Break**

11:30-12:30  Presentation on the **Regional Solidarity Fund**

By Jean-Marie Ndi, PSI Titular, French-speaking Africa

Session chaired by Peters Adeyemi, PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries

Discussion

12:30-14:00  **Lunch break**

14:00-16:00  **Regional Activities Report** and **Regional Action Plan for 2014-2018**

By David Dorkenoo, PSI Regional Secretary for Africa and Arab Countries.

Session chaired by Peters Adeyemi, PSI Vice-President for Africa and Arab Countries

Discussion and adoption

16:00-16:30  **Coffee break**

16:30-17:15  Introduction and adoption of **recommendations from pre-conference meetings**

17:15-17:45  Adoption of **AFRECON Recommendations and Resolutions**

Presentation of the **Regional Leadership** to the Conference

17:45-18:00  **Closing of AFRECON**

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**SOLIDARITY FOREVER**

Chorus:
Solidarity Forever
Solidarity Forever
Solidarity forever for the union makes us strong

When the union’s inspiration through
The workers blood shall run
There can be no power greater anywhere
Beneath the sun
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the
Feeble strength of one but the union makes us strong

(Chorus)

In our hands is place a power greater than
Their hoarded gold,
Greater than the might of armies magnified
A thousand fold,
We can bring a new world from the ashes of the old,
For the union makes us strong

(Chorus)